



News Release from Congressman

ROB SIMMONS

SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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SIMMONS STATEMENT ON THE RESIGNATION OF CIA DIRECTOR PORTER GOSS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Rob Simmons, R-2nd District, today reacted to the resignation of Central Intelligence Agency Director Porter Goss.

"I'm surprised at Porter's resignation and am disappointed that he is leaving," Simmons said. "I thought he was making real changes as head of the CIA and was very pleased with the direction he was taking the Agency."

Simmons continued, "When finding a replacement I urge President Bush to choose an individual who shared Mr. Goss' vision of remaking the CIA to better combat the threats facing America today. The Intelligence Community is at a crossroads today and we need experienced leaders like Porter to continue the transformation."

Simmons is the Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee's Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment.

Simmons, a champion of the open source intelligence (OSINT) discipline, is a retired intelligence officer with several decades of experience in both military and civilian capacities. In 1969 he joined the CIA, working as an Operations Officer for a decade, including five years on assignment overseas in East Asia. He currently serves as Chairman of the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment.

In 1979, Rob left the CIA to join the staff of Senator John H. Chafee (R-RI). In 1981, he was assigned to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence as Senator Chafee's Professional Staff Member. He was subsequently named Staff Director of the Senate Intelligence Committee by Chairman Barry Goldwater (R-Arizona) – a position he held from November 1981 through February 1985.

Rob has served in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Military Intelligence Officer since 1970, retiring as a Colonel in 2003 with over 37 years of active and reserve service. He is past commander of the 434th Military Intelligence (MI) Detachment (Strategic) in New Haven, CT.

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